

April 1, 1980

LB 999

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. President, I spoke to you yesterday about carrying out the policy of this Legislature in regard to graduate education at Kearney State College and the University of Nebraska. The Legislature made their position very clear that we expected and demanded that there be a cooperative effort in graduate education at those two institutions. I have visited in the last twenty-four hours with representatives of both of them. The final conclusion I reached from my discussion is that one says the other is to blame and the other says the other is to blame, and the end result is the intention of this Legislature has not been carried by either one of them and they kind of think it is a joke that you can tell them and direct them to do something and they don't have to do it. I think it is very important...it's very important to education that when the Legislature sets the guidelines and the policy it be followed. If the University and Kearney can do this, then, of course, the tech colleges ought to be able to offer anything they want to regardless of what the Legislature says. The University ought to be able to do anything they want to regardless of what the Legislature says. The decisions made by the committee were after hundreds and hundreds of hours of discussion, were after hundreds and hundreds of people having input to the committee, and two years later we are in the same spot. We are in the same spot. I guess reason, discussion, plea for cooperation hasn't worked. So I guess that you go for them where they feel it the most, and where the response level is the highest, is at their money. And they can have it once they decide that they are going to move into it. Otherwise, I think we ought to repeal 756 on role and mission. There was supposed to be a report to the Clerk of this Legislature, a detailed report, in September as to where we are on that. The detailed report submitted to the Clerk was a one-page agreement. I resent that, their efforts to scuttle that effort and my judgment on parts of both of the institutions, and I think it is time for us to get serious with them, a repeal of the law.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute.

SENATOR LEWIS: I don't need it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the motion is to return the bill for the Lewis amendment. We are talking about LB 499 (sic). Senator Koch, do you wish to speak to the Lewis amendment?

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I understand Senator Lewis' concern. I think many of us share that occasionally,